

THE SCOPE

"MAKE YOUR MARK, BUT MIND WHAT YOUR MARK IS."

— *Anonymous*

Articles by

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September 1940

THE SCOPE



*Published by the students of the Massachusetts School of Optometry
Boston, Massachusetts*



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THE SCOPE

Presents

THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH AND WISDOM

by G. Henry Aronsfeld, Opt. D., D. O. S., Houston, Texas

Written exclusively for "The Scope"

A standard dictionary defines "truth" as follows:

"The state or character of being true in relation to being, knowledge, or speech. Specifically, conformity to fact or reality."

The same work defines "wisdom" as follows:

"The power of true and just discernment, sound judgement."

George Herbert, the English poet, has said, "Dare to be true, nothing can need a lie; A fault which needs it most, grows two thereby."

Homer in his *Odyssey* has given us, "How prone to doubt,
How cautious are the wise!"

Cowper has summarized the situation beautifully when he writes,

"But they whom truth and wisdom lead,
Can gather honey from a weed."

It would seem, then, that those who are engaged in obtaining the ground work of a professional education should take heed of the sayings and statements which have been quoted.

We, in Optometry, are fortunate that compared with some other vocations, our profession deals with an art and science which is much more definite and the fundamentals of which have been quite soundly established by those pioneers and scientists who laid the groundwork upon which Optometry is built.

In a modern professional course such as is being given at M. S. O., the student has the opportunity of learning these fundamentals and, further, he is not forced to get his information from dry tomes but he has the advantage of having the subjects thoroughly explained to him by skilled instructors.

Be that as it may, the actual benefit which the sincere student will derive from his Optometric training will depend for the most part on his mental outlook.

To me it seems that the student should be interested not alone in memorizing those things which others have said and have written but he should also be desirous of finding out for himself the nearest possible approach to the truth in every instance.

If he will do this, he will soon find that not alone is he gaining sound knowledge but he is also acquiring a degree of wisdom which will enable him to best apply what he has learned for the benefit of his patients.

It is only natural, in a young and growing profession like Optometry, that enthusiastic individuals will, from time to time, present theories which have not been carefully worked out and which, when an attempt is made to apply them in practice, yield only disappointment and failure.

To the student, who has received his degree and has earned it, it will not be difficult for him to separate "the chaff from the wheat" and he will be able to do it without the costly and embarrassing necessity of experimenting

with the patients who entrust their eyesight to his care.

In a well regulated educational institution, the students have the opportunity of seeing how theories work out by applying them themselves or seeing them employed in connection with the conduct of a clinic. Under such conditions, exhaustive investigations can be made and the result of these should be to remove much doubt and confusion which might exist otherwise.

Often, when we scan current literature, we are amazed that so many writers seem to disregard fundamentals entirely and plunge ahead on an uncharted sea. That many of them never reach a safe port, is not surprising.

The pity of it, as I see it, is that a great deal of attention is frequently paid to subjects which have only a passing interest to Optometrists when, as a matter of fact, there is so much still to be learned about refraction and orthoptics which are, after all, the foundation stones of sound Optometric practice.

Very often we read, a glib statement of this nature, "A correct refraction on the part of Optometrists may be assumed". If this were true it would not be possible for many patients to say as they do, after a careful examination has been made, "Doctor, I have never had my eyes examined in this way before". On hearing this for the first time, the sincere practitioner may feel a glow of pride but, upon mature reflection, he may come to the conclusion that "There is something rotten in Denmark" because careful work should be the rule and not the exception if Optometry is to attain its proper position in our scheme of things.

Naturally, it is inevitable, and happily so, that new thoughts and ideas will continue to be presented and many of them will prove to be both valuable and useful.

It is here that the student, who has now become a practitioner, will have to use all of his wisdom in order to determine that which is true and that which is not true.

Patients like to feel that the one whom they consult is a real authority on the subject of eyes and vision. Further than this, they

have a right to expect such knowledge on the part of their Optometrist and, therefore, it behooves him to keep abreast of the times and never to commit himself to a new theory or a new procedure until he has given it exhaustive tests on himself, his office assistant or perhaps a member of his family or a friend. The need for careful investigation, even of statements in standard textbooks, really needs little discussion because it is so manifestly true.

Not so many years ago, one textbook, which was used by all Optometrists, stressed thirteen inches as the proper reading distance, gave -4.00 addition as the proper reading correction in aphakia and disparaged the value of curved lenses. To the modern student, this may seem almost funny but we must ask the reader of these lines to remember that THIS IS THE WAY IT WAS BEING TAUGHT.

Hundreds of words have been used by writers and speakers to stress the view that the cylinder as shown by the ophthalmometer would eventually be accepted both as the power, with certain deductions, and exactly as to axis.

In these statements, the effect of lenticular astigmatism, when corneal curves have their primary positions in oblique meridians and not vertically and horizontally, seems to have been entirely overlooked.

A prominent writer formerly made the statement that for certain orthoptic work the reading addition must be included in presbyopic cases although the phorometer trial frame, which was being used, already contained lenses which neutralized the distance from the eyes to the object of regard.

Another writer once stated that in the Maddox-rod test made at 6 meters, orthophoria really meant 1 prism diopter of exophoria. As a matter of fact if the light is exactly on the line, the condition is 1 prism diopter of esophoria at 6 meters.

These were all honest mistakes and were corrected just as soon as they were called to the attention of the authors but the point involved is that they were mistakes and the careful student must be in a position to detect

(please turn to page eight)

OPERATING LAMP HAS UNIQUE FEATURES



A new operating lamp has been developed in the Bausch & Lomb Scientific Bureau which provides brilliant, velvet-smooth light of day-light quality which has proved excellent for revealing small blood vessels or hemorrhages and for identifying tissues.

At a distance of ten inches the new Ortho-Lite illuminates an area three inches in diameter, intensity is variable up to 600 foot-candles, a pre-focused bulb can be installed, centered, and locked in permanent position by a single operation. The light is equipped with either transformer or resistance for conversion of standard 110-120 volt electric current. Ultra-violet fluorescing filter attachment is optional.

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"HEY YOU - FRESHMEN!"

by Herbert S. Greenblatt '41

Well fellow — pull up a chair and sit down. Speaking for myself and my classmates I want to extend a hearty welcome to you and hope that your stay here will be a pleasant and memory-gathering one.

You know — from the day that you first came here your life has been changing. Maybe you didn't realize it — or maybe you did. However, you'll find that you will slowly undergo a process of change that may be imperceptible to you as it occurs but some day in the not too distant future you'll suddenly stop and take stock of yourself and find that you are thinking, dressing, acting and *living* differently. Now at this point you stop me and say, "How foolish — of course I'll change. Doesn't everyone change as he gets older?" True, most of us change — some for the better, some for the worse — *but* in our case, we all must change for the better. Let me put it this way. Last year most of you were Seniors in high school. Now a senior in high school is a wonderful thing to behold. First of all, he is not paying for his schooling. Secondly, he has no definite focal point of ambition. True, he may have decided on his career but he hasn't as yet taken the plunge and consequently can not feel the forces at work. And last — he is looked up to because he is a senior.

Now let us consider the first point. If someone is paying your tuition for you — fine. It is up to you to repay their faith with consistent effort. If you're fighting your way through by working — all the better. Statistics show that the fellow who pays his own tuition usually does better. In either case you have an incentive.

Secondly — you have made your final choice. You have selected Optometry. Since you did select Optometry, why not go at it correctly? Consider this — once you graduate and begin to practice, your entire existence — the very bread you eat, — your life itself will be Opto-

metry. So plug from the start — don't just aim for high marks. After you graduate no one will ask to see your report cards. Try to develop those attributes which distinguish the professional man from his fellows.

Next let us consider the case of the senior who becomes a freshman. The transition is abrupt and often painful, but remember — the senior who examines your eyes was once *you* walking down Boylston Street for the first time. You'll be asked to be a guinea pig time and time again. At first it will be interesting but then it becomes monotonous and downright uncomfortable. But if you try to take an interest in the proceedings I'm sure you will reap dividends in increased knowledge of your work, for each and every Senior will be only too glad to explain and answer any of your questions concerning our work.

You'll find the professors, leaders in their fields, a most interesting and fine group of men who will do their utmost to smooth over the rough spots for you.

Summarizing all that has been said above — the results you will obtain depend mostly on yourself. What are you going to do about it?

* * * *

FRESHMAN JOKES (they always do)

Teacher: "And for centuries the Greeks studied algebra and geometry."

Carrier: "That explains the downfall of the Greeks."

* * * *

Mushroom — A place to write love stories.

SPORT EYE-LIGHTS

by William W. Wolfson

On behalf of the basketball squad, yours truly would like to extend a hearty welcome to the Freshman Class, especially to those who are basketball-minded. All students are eligible to try out for the basketball team which is the only sport undertaken and sponsored by the student body.

With most of last year's returning squad being reinforced by the Freshmen aspirants the outlook for a successful season appears bright.

A schedule for the coming season is now being arranged and it bids to be one of the hardest in years. Some of the leading schools and prep academy teams will be among the opponents.

A pre-season Basketball Game and Dance with the Faculty is now being planned, the receipts of the game helping to defray the ex-

penses of additional uniforms. The date is as yet undecided but it probably will be held sometime in October.

The personnel of this year's team include: Dr. Ralph H. Green, serving in the capacity of Faculty athletic adviser; Bill Wolfson as captain and Sid Stillman and Ralph Fritz will share the managerial role. The lettermen of last year's squad that are returning include the following: Lou Snyder, Marshal Margolskee, Jack Rice and Phil Regan.

In the near future a basketball meeting will be held for the purpose of meeting the new candidates and also for completing the plans of the Faculty vs. School Team Game and Dance Till then,

Eye'll remain

W. W. W.

AMONG THE GIRLS

by Janet Mechanic

We, the co-eds of M. S. O. are starting this year off with a bang . . BANG!!!

First, we are proud to announce that our charming Sorority sister, Elsa Schröder, completed her studies at our school and at present is assisting her father down in Puerto Rico.

Strike up the band in welcome to Amelia Caton of New Bedford the "lone wolferess" of the freshman class. Though only in school three weeks she has already been elected to an office in her class.

17.5% of Epsilon Omicron Sigma in the person of Rita Johnson, has left our ranks to study laboratory work at a nearby school.

What was Juliet without her Romeo?

What was Cleopatra without her Anthony?

What was Frankie without her Johnny?

What is Evelyn without her David? You might think that she would become the President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Lonely Hearts Association, but she has not, there are plenty of fish in the sea. Catch?

Miss M? Amanda Font is again residing at the Franklin Square House after returning from a sojourn in Puerto Rico. Since her return, classes in conversational Spanish have been resumed in the girls' room Incorporated, Inc. with Harold, the new "custodian".

Bang! Well, I guess this is where we came in.

PI OMICRON SIGMA

by Alex Tulskey



Π Ο Σ

DR. R. H. GREEN, *Grand Chancellor*

ALEX TULSKY, *Chancellor*

CORTLAND RICHMOND, *Vice Chancellor*

HERBERT GREENBLATT, *Scribe*

STEWART MCKENZIE, *Treasurer*

RALPH ROGOLSKY, *Sergeant-at-Arms*

The 1940 scholastic year at M. S. O. commences the 28th year of activity of the Pi Omicron Sigma Fraternity.

Primarily the fraternity wishes to welcome the new Freshman Class and hopes in all sincerity that their school years will be as successful and as pleasant as has been ours.

Last year terminated one of our most successful years, academically and socially and

plans are made this year which surpass anything that has ever been attempted.

The calendar this year consists of our annual Hallowe'en dance and our annual Valentine Party among many other social and educational affairs. The fraternity brothers are already looking forward to the most successful social year that has ever been accomplished.

It has been definitely established that the Pi Omicron Sigma fraternity is the *oldest* Optometric society in the United States, having been organized in 1913. Among the notable alumni of our fraternity is Dr. John E. Corbett, present president of the American Optometric Association.

P. O. S. leads! Others follow — the season has started.

--THE SEARCH

(Continued from page three)
them.

We would cite many other instances of a like nature but we believe that the references which have been given are sufficient. In concluding this little paper, I should like to call the reader's attention to two more excellent quotations.

One is from Goldsmith,

"Wisdom makes but a slow defense against trouble, though at last a sure one."

The other is from the Book of Books and we quote from Job,

"The price of wisdom is above rubies".

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all the students of the Massachusetts School of Optometry, particularly to the incoming members of the Freshman class. We feel certain that in selecting Optometry you have chosen wisely and hope that your stay with us will be both pleasant and successful.

As has been traditional, the first issue of the SCOPE is chiefly concerned with introducing itself to the new students. And far be it from us to deviate from this path, and break tradition.

The SCOPE was founded by the students of our School in 1928 under the direction of Drs. Ralph H. Green and Bernard Fritz. It has been issued monthly since this time, during each school year, and because of the fact that many of our leading Optometric institutions have discontinued their publications, we are pleased to announce that the SCOPE is one of the few remaining school publications in our field. There is one point that we wish to stress. Although we appreciate the contributions of our guest-writers, this publication is chiefly written by the *students* and *faculty* of our school. It is upon your support that we depend. Occasionally we are approached by a student who is in doubt as to what topic he should chose as his contribution to the SCOPE. This can be answered only by the student himself. We assure you that any and all contributions will receive due consideration and a sincere effort will be made to publish whatever you might offer. If we can feel certain of at least one piece of serious literature from each of you (it matters not whether it be poetry, educational or general) we can guarantee you a banner year.

Remember, the SCOPE is yours. With your support it thrives and improves — without this support it merely exists.

P. S. The above remarks are made as an appeal to the *entire* student body. None is too big or too small to be excluded from their "Scope".

THE EDITOR SAYS

It is with deep feeling that the SCOPE Staff wishes, once again, to extend its welcome to

SENIOR SEGMENTS

by H. Greenblatt '41

As we sit down to write this article we can't help but ponder over how fast these last few years have gone by. Honestly, it doesn't seem like more than eight or ten years since we started our courses.

Anyway it certainly was good to see all the bright and happy faces crowding around and eagerly pressing forward to pay tuition bills.

It seems that everyone had a profitable and enjoyable summer. Corrente nagged the nags, — Hindman hammed the hams and Beckwith gave the ice-blocks the cold shoulder. Speaking of Becky, he had a little argument with a tree and a stone wall and while he stopped to filibuster, was dealt a cracked rib and minor contusions of the orbicularis palpebrarum. He, however, pulled through and we were certainly glad to see that familiar waddle coming down the street the first day of school.

Not everyone had such a nice vacation though. Some of us braved the heat and humidity and served as internes way down dere in the clinic. Between "hearts" and unfortunate patients, Gilman, Plett, Rogolsky, Mayer, Lappin, Toy, Saulnier, Ramsden, Storer, Goodfader, Corrente, and Sklar wasted their time. As in all types of endeavor, certain incidents take place which render the work even more interesting than originally. Now a certain patient was being examined in Booth B, which has as part of its equipment a projector. The patient who was seated in the chair was asked to call off the letters on the screen. "E, E, E, E, E, E, E, E, E, E," was the reply that met the startled ear of the examiner. Close observation revealed that the patient had been reading the illiterate E chart placed just above the screen. And then there was the case that Goodfader had. Every time the patient came to the letter "E" he would read it as "E-backwards". Example: "A, P, E-backwards, O, T, etc. Next let's take the case of the misguided prisms, and at the outset let's make this clear. Don't disbelieve *all* that you hear in the classroom. I did — and suf-

fered for it. I had the pleasure of examining a little colored girl, age 15. Her refractive error was slight and I was able to advance up to phorias during the first sitting. Rosalie returned for the finish (and what a finish). She gracefully entered the booth and sat down. "How are you today, Rosalie?" I inquired. "Oh, I don't feel so good today, Doctor." (This was the first warning — I should have known better) I ignored her complaints, feeling that it was beneath my dignity to sympathize with a mere child over her misfortunes. And so on with the testing. I gave Rosalie diplopia and she gave me a surprise. Turning away from a near phoria test to make a recording on the case record I caught a glimpse of Rosalie staring off into space with a most peculiar expression on her face. "Rosalie," I said, "Are you uncomfortable?" That was as far as I got. "Oh, Doctor," she said, "I don't think I feel so good, I think I'll run downstairs for a minute." And with this charming confession, she flew by me with an anguished look and fevered brow in a mad race with physiology and the effect of the prisms on an upset stomach. Needless to say the prisms and upset stomach won the race as will be attested by the "cleanicians". Rosalie and I aren't on speaking terms any more. PRISMS IS POISON!

Like exo, some insanity is inherent — not all is acquired — for during any shop period when PD measurements hold sway you may find Hindman and Goonfader delightedly giggling over the following ditty that the latter evolved —

"High Peedle De, Dee
A B and L for me!"

Incidentally, if you ever have to take a PD on Hymoff — use a meter stick.

* * * * *

Poor Murgatroyed! Hymoff's folly finally failed. It happened this way. Now, you know that the modern conveyance runs on
(please turn to page thirteen)

JUNIOR SEEING EYE

by George M. Cohen

Well, boys and girls, we're back. Truthfully speaking, we weren't away. You know it's a funny thing, but vacations never seem as vacations to us. From the consensus of opinion, it seems that most of the fellows worked harder during the summer months than during the previous three seasons. Ask any one of the instructors, especially Dr. Namias, being as what's good enough for him, well, for you — and you — it's good enough for you — yoohoo; "Get the idea?" Now look, if you don't — the trouble with most fellows is that they just don't take the time to look — they'd see it 'cause it's there but just — well, take for instance, the time one smart fellow did a complete ophthalmoscopy, drew a beautiful diagram and then topped it off by writing a literary masterpiece on what the apparently, (notice, never commit yourself by saying was) fundus appeared to be, and the patient revealed later that all along, the poor chap's eye was but made of glass. Boy, what fun this was for the clinician in charge, never mind the Jounior class, (notice that word "Jounior"). Boy but that sounds nice, don't it.

Hello, anyway, and how are you — oh, I'm fine too. Had a very nice vacation, five days, and hope you were as lucky.

Newman, when are you going to manage to spend a few days at home? Oh, only an occasional week-end between Sunday and Sunday nights in July and August, huh? . . . Falino gave up the Bulova Watch Company, thinking it too small an outfit and went into the custom jewelry line . . . Horace managed to wrest himself from Framingham to get down to Panama, after a two year struggle. As for the rest of the gang, seems we spent this summer, same as last year.

The new or should I say the renewal of the roll call system sort of brings us back to the time that we were Freshmen. Now that the

system has been re-introduced, many a lad will rest more comfortably in the early hours of the day while his fellow classmates have less of a writer's cramp.

Seems as though the "Eye" owes Hank Fine an apology — incidently, have you seen the lad bowl — "Sure Strike" Hank is his name, — well, any way, to reiterate, I made a mistake last June — Hank's oldest entered Kindergarten this fall. Appears to be following his old man's footsteps, being as they both started in the same way.

Counting noses, the present Jounior class has been depleted by a score of eight, but a new schnozzle has poked through to increase the back row triumvirate, belonging to Bob Rodman. Take a bow Bob and welcome to our merry little group.

Now that we're all back home and settled once more, it's good to see all of you back, to shake your hand and suffer the same mental anguish and as scribe of the Jounior class, I take this extra space to extend to the new freshman group a grand welcome. Don't look like a bad bunch either. They'll get straightened out soon, thanks to the Sophomore class and the ever helpful Frats. The fun is on — best wishes and all that rot for the coming year. May we all make the Dean's List.

"Eye"

* * * *

Expressive Expressions

"He nudged me with a wink."

"It isn't her eyes, it's the way she looks through them."

"The mind of the bigot is like the pupil of the eye; the more light you throw in, the smaller it gets."

RAMBLINGS OF A SOPH

by *Saul Silverstein*

Good day, my fine feathered classmates or should I say what's left of last year's crop of freshmen. (You too, Yehudi.) Here we are assembled once again under the roof of dear old M. S. O. and where the heck is Selby. Hirsh, and a few other future ex-optometrists! Looking about me I see a couple of strange faces and also looking aside of me I see the same old kisses' of Sour Kraus and Tender Issokson; and looking over Rutberg's flaming, gorgeous, terrific, delicious, savory, appetizing, red hair I perceive a few familiar faces such as Pussy Katz (as in cats), Gallant Carrier, John "minus Flynn" Quinn, Miss Levine (as in Teen) etc., etc., etc. . . . Please excuse me for not being in somewhat of a coherent fashion today, for I still have part of the summer's vacation tucked away in a corner of my Conscious mind and until the vacation has slipped by the Censor into the Unconscious mind, I shall just ramble on and the first thing I can think of (if possible) I shall jot down. You know, sort of a memoir (in the crudest possible form). For a moment when I saw the schedule posted on the bulletin board I thought that I was in the wrong institution. No this and no that for us Sophs. No ophthalmoscope, no retinoscope, no white coats plus no clinic. Did I say anything wrong? I repeat no white coats, no cli . . . oops! Cross out that last statement! I don't want to be accused of writing lies so soon in the stage. What price per annum? Three hundred and seventy-five "simoleons"! What for? Guinea pigs! Ain't dere no justice? By the way, did you notice that sharp hat Forman is wearing now-a-days. It's a killer! One look at it and out you go. Although Rita Johnson left school to enjoy the pursuit of happiness (studying for technician) she was quickly replaced by a Miss Adler about whom we know so little (?). In case you haven't noticed her, please cast your entire gaze about this feminine creature sitting beside "Arnelda".

Attention: To you students who feel sick, want to know whether you're sick, feel like getting sick, please consult Dr. Spritz and he will give you the once over. He cured Rosenthal and Silverman of their physical and mental woes. Ask these boys and they'll give you the lowdown. "Boy! Are my hands unsteady." This was the popular phrase during our first session of P. O. shop. The way some of the fellows' hands were shaking you might get the impression that they didn't quite get over jerking sodas or mixing highballs or something or other. What happened to that yellow sheet of paper upon which was signed the names of this country's best batch of future refractors. I mean the ones who hope to "get out" in '43 (not years). Maybe Adolph will be here by then and maybe he'll pass out the diplomas to such names as Cohen, Goldberg, and of course the little Irishman Solomon Abraham Fishberg Hamburg Finklestein. Noticing the column "Among the Girls" in last September's issue of the SCOPE I saw this statement: "Everyone seems to have returned with renewed energy to start studying etc. Well, well. If that ain't the truth. Ouch! Did you hit me, Bob Kraus?"

*A tooth for some teeth
An eye for some girls
Au revoir.*

Compliments of

Hamlet's Market

--SENIOR SEGMENTS

(Continued from page ten)

cheap gasoline, worse oil and the fervent prayers of its occupants. We were riding (?) home the other P. M. when we heard a rather unusual noise. But — noise with Murgy is just like eso with Hyperopia — brothers, so we didn't mind it. However we noticed that the scenery wasn't slouching by us any more so we decided to investigate. Hymoff did an external on the radiator, Jaffe did ophthalmoscopy on the headlights, Sklar did a slow subjective on the tires, and Rappaport found an exhaustive exo on the exhaust pipe — so we put our heads together — ordered total occlusion for six months and went home by street car.

We have been informed that our old pal "Sciatica Nate" is lying in some forgotten Ward pining away for his Duke - Elder. Nate says the book was there but the *appendix* is gone! Well Nate, the entire class extends its best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

Health Note: KEEP OUT OF THE DRAFT.
Gririspem!

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

There is quite a difference on examining patients who are students here as compared with patients who know nothing of eye examinations. This is experienced when we go to night-clinic. The patient has to be instructed at every stage; every test necessitates many and varied instructions to the patient which instructions would be superfluous in the examination of a fellow student. When a junior goes to night-clinic for the first time he discovers that this "art", Dr. Green has been talking about, is really there. An example of this was George Hymoff trying to get a case history out of a seven year old boy.

George's questions went something like this:

"Can you see the blackboard in school?"

"Yes, Doctor."

"Do you have headaches?"

"What are headaches?"

"Do you see double?"

"Where?"

"Can you read a book easily?"

"Yes Doctor, if there are no big words."

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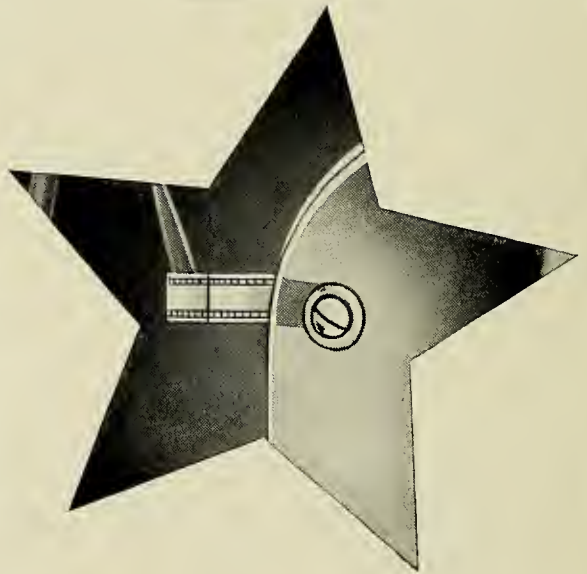
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